



Weather Cancellation Policy

In the unmistakable biblical call to structure community in a way that protects the wellbeing of the neighbor, it is imperative that First Lutheran Church have a policy for delays, postponements, cancellations, and closures of its church-sponsored activities in relation to extreme weather events. The safety of our congregation, staff, and community is paramount.

WHO MAKES THE CALL?

- The Lead Pastor, who is the head of staff and lead administrator at FLC, will make the final call on delays, postponements, cancellations, and closures.
- In the absence of a Lead Pastor, this authority lies with the Associate or interim(s).
- In the absence of a pastor, this authority falls to the Vision Council President.

METHODOLOGY:

- Local, State, and National Agencies:
 - We will rely upon and follow the orders of local law enforcement, the Becker County Sheriff's Department, the Minnesota State Highway Patrol, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and/or the National Weather Service. Delays, postponements, cancellations, and closures will be contingent upon relevant travel advisories.
- Detroit Lakes Public Schools (DLPS):
 - Because DLPS has a diverse population of staff, faculty, and students to consider, they have a very similar population demographic to First Lutheran Church (with the exception that FLC has one additional vulnerable population to consider: the elderly). This makes DLPS a suitable resource to consider in making weather-related announcements at FLC.
 - Furthermore, because DLPS considers local, state, and national agencies as they make their cancellation announcements, DLPS make a suitable resource to consider in making weather related announcements at FLC.
 - Because DLPS' weather-related decisions often significantly impact FLC pastors, staff, volunteers, and ministry groups at FLC who have their own children to consider, it makes common sense that FLC would typically align weather-related decisions with DLPS.

***Therefore, during weekdays and while school is in session, FLC will typically follow DLPS weather-related decisions. During the weekends, FLC will follow orders and advisories from local, state, and national agencies.**

OUTDOOR WORSHIP: If extreme heat, storms, high winds, or rain is in the forecast and such weather is deemed unsafe for people to be outside or threatens damage to worship equipment, the call to move outdoor worship into the sanctuary will be made by no later than **8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings** (as worship equipment is moved outside during the first service). The flowchart of who makes this call remains the same, but can also fall to the Director of Music in the absence of pastors.

912 Lake Avenue | Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Phone: 218.847.5656

www.firstlutheranchurch.com